

# State of Women: A County by County Report on Women and Girls in Massachusetts Hampden County

## Basic Demographics

### Female Population

Total: 237,735

Under 21.....	28.58%
21 to 34.....	17.13%
35 to 64.....	37.37%
65 and over.....	16.92%

### Households, Year 2000

Total: 175,288

Female householder, no husband present...	15.92%
With children under 6.....	26.50%
With children under 18.....	63.35%

- In Hampden County, 31.99% of families with a female householder (no husband present) live in poverty, much more than in any other county in the state.

## Earnings and Employment

### Median Earnings in 1999

Male.....	\$30,786
Female.....	\$19,519

### The Living Wage in 2003

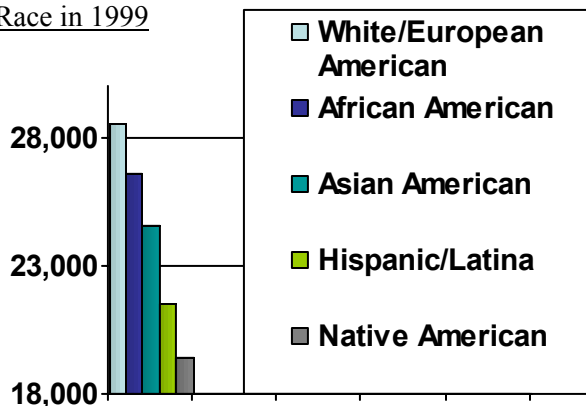
For one Adult and 2 children, one in pre-school and one in elementary school.....\$36,603-40,598

For 2 Adults and 2 children, one in pre-school and one in elementary school.....\$42,844-46,714

### Percentage of Women Living in Poverty in 1999

All women.....	15.99%
Girls under 5.....	25.87%
Women over 65.....	10.96%
Families.....	11.45%

### Median Earnings for Full-Time, Female Workers by Race in 1999



### Employment Status of Women, Year 2000

Employed: 100,176

Unemployed in Labor Force: 5,585

Not in Labor Force: 70,518

## Education

### Female Educational Attainment in 2000

No High School Diploma.....	20.40%
High School Graduate.....	51.02%
Associate or Professional Degree.....	10.30%
Bachelor's Degree.....	12.46%
Master's Degree.....	5.46%
Doctorate Degree.....	0.37%

### 2003 Female Public High School

#### Drop-Out Rate

Massachusetts State Average.....	2.79%
Hampden County Average.....	5.23%

- This is the second-highest dropout rate for girls in the state.

## Health and Wellness

### Reproductive Health

- In 2004, 722 new mothers (12.60%) in Hampden County were adolescents of age 20 or younger—the highest percentage in the state.
- Hampden County has the highest infant mortality rate in the state; nearly 7.7 babies per 1,000 births in 2002.
- In 2004, 1,508 pregnant women (26.50%) did not receive any prenatal care in their first trimester, which was also the highest percentage in the state.
- Thus, publicly funded prenatal care had the biggest impact in Hampden County, where 52.90% of mothers benefited from it—a total of 2,987 women.

### HIV and AIDS

- In April of 2000, 377 women were living with HIV and 278 women were living with AIDS in Hampden County.

### Smoking

- Between 2001 and 2003, 381 women died from either bronchus or lung cancer.

## Political Participation in 2006

Females elected to State House: 3 (25.00%)

❖ Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women ❖

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